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SECURITY INFORMATION

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WESTERN EUROPE

1. Sentiment persists in France for four-power talks:
The American Embassy in Paris reports that there is still considerable sentiment in France for a four-power meeting on Germany.

The government's refusal to accept immediate talks with the USSR has led to increased criticism of Schuman. Rene Mayer, the leading contender for the Foreign Ministry post, is on record as favoring a four-power conference prior to EDC ratification.

The vice-president of Mayer's Radical Socialist Party has published a plea for "one last try," and the Paris daily closest to Pinay has expressed similar sentiments. (S S/S Paris 1322, 30 Aug 52)

Comment: Rumors of Schuman's deteriorating position continue, but Pinay cannot hope to hold Popular Republican support if he replaces the Foreign Minister. In any event, the French Government is not expected to call for immediate talks.

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